

SECRET

6 April 1948

TO : (F. L. Ackerman)⁰³
FROM : (B. C. Seymour *BES.*)⁰³
SUBJECT : Lucien Emile CONEIN
REFERENCE: ⁷²(WFPW)424, 4 March 1948

1. Subject was born in Paris on 29 November 1919, the illegitimate son of Lucien Xavier CONEIN, born March 14th 1872 at Meaux, and Estelle Leontine Aimee ELIN, born June 6th 1893 at Soengi, Sumatra. The birth was registered at the Mairie of the 14th Arrondissement under the name of ELIN, although subject was later recognized by his father and took the name of CONEIN. CONEIN Sr. died at Redon (Ille-et-Vilaine) on February 1st 1924.

2. CONEIN went to the United States in 1925 and was brought up by his maternal aunt, Mrs. Jeanne McBEE, presently living at 1013 Wisconsin Street, San Francisco, California. The latter has been in the United States since 1921 and became a naturalized citizen on 19 June 1942. CONEIN became a naturalized citizen on August 11th 1942 at Tacoma, Washington. His mother is presently applying at this Embassy for an immigration visa on the Netherlands quota, in conformity with the Immigration Act of 1924 which states that nationality for quota purposes shall be determined by the place of birth. Her sponsors for entry into the United States are her sister and her son, both of whom have filed affidavits at the Embassy. CONEIN also has a younger brother presently living with his mother at 15 rue du Chalet, Malakoff, Seine. The latter is married and is attempting to get a divorce.

3. According to the affidavit submitted by CONEIN in his mother's favor, he was first married on 29 July 1943 and divorced on 9 November of the same year. No further details concerning this marriage are stated. He was remarried in Paris on April 2nd 1946 at the Mairie of the 1st Arrondissement to Monique Denise Pierre VEBER, born January 20th 1919 at Nice, the daughter of Serge Pierre VEBER, well-known theatrical producer, and Jeanne Henriette ALCAN. They are both French citizens. Two children were born of this marriage. According to CONEIN's sworn statement he was divorced in Paris on 23 December 1947. The records of the Tribunal Civil of the Seine Department indicate that a decree of divorce "in absentia" was granted on that date at the request of Monique Denise VEBER in the absence of CONEIN. According to French law this decree is not considered valid until officially notified to CONEIN personally, at which time the pertinent data will be entered in the marriage register of the 1st Arrondissement where they were married. This has not yet been done and CONEIN is therefore not yet considered legally divorced according to French law.

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4. Certain discrepancies exist in the matter of the exact date of CONEIN's second marriage. Official French records give the date of marriage as April 2nd 1946, which is presumably the correct one. According to CONEIN's file in the Passport Section of the Embassy he was married in Paris on May 13th 1946²² (WFPW) 424 of March 4th 1948, on the other hand, states that he was married April 23rd 1946 in Paris. It is possible that these discrepancies are the result of a clerical error somewhere along the line, or that one indicates the date of the civil ceremony and one the religious ceremony, which is usual in France though rarely so far apart.

5. During the course of her routine interview at the Embassy in connection with her application for an immigration visa, Mrs. CONEIN Sr. displayed a notable reluctance to discuss her son's affairs. She stated that she had little or no contact with him and was not aware of his marital situation, although she had heard that he had recently been divorced. No valid reason for this reticence is known, particularly since investigation revealed that she was a frequent visitor to her son and daughter-in-law at 171 rue Saint Honore. This information is therefore submitted for the record and whatever it might be worth.

6. Serge Pierre VEBER, CONEIN's father-in-law, was born in Paris on September 2nd 1897. He was married in Paris on April 18th 1918 to Jeanne Henriette Denise ALCAN, born July 3rd 1896 at Ville d'Avray (S-et-O). Monique Denise CONEIN, nee VEBER, born January 20th 1919 at Nice, is their only child. VEBER is a well-known dramatic writer and producer. In 1939 the VEBER family lived at 15 Quai de Conti, Paris. VEBER left that address in 1941 and is believed to have joined his family in Algiers. In 1943 the family was investigated in order to determine whether or not they were Jews. It was eventually determined that although they had Jewish connections they were to be classified as Aryans. Serge Pierre VEBER has a brother, Gilles Pierre, born February 17th 1896 in Paris. He is divorced from one Raymonde KIATEMACKERA and was remarried in Paris on 25 May 1935 to Catherine AGADJANIANTZ, born 25 November 1911 in Petrograd. The latter, who is of Russian origin but a French national, had herself been divorced from one Jean ROSSIGNOL. They have three children and in 1943 were living at 74 rue Erlanger, Paris 16e. Gilles Pierre VEBER is a writer who has published numerous novels and for twenty years he was an associate editor of "Le Matin". No derogatory information concerning the VEBER family was revealed during the course of the investigation.

(No file copies made).

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